

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (new): An external urinary catheter, comprising a tip portion and a sheath portion, said external urinary catheter being manufactured by thermoplastic processing, c h a r a c t e r - i z e d in that, in a position of use, at least one area of the external urinary catheter is transparent and/or permeable.

Claim 24 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23, in which the external urinary catheter is made from a material comprising at least one transparent thermoplastic elastomer and at least one plasticizer.

Claim 25 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 24, in which said material comprises a polystyrene polyethylene/butylene polystyrene compound, another styrenic elastomer compound or elastomeric metallocen polyethylene or metallocen polypropylene, and at least one slip additive.

Claim 26 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 25, in which said at least one slip additive is an amide, such as erucamide, stereamide or oleamide or any other suitable slip additive.

Claim 27 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23, in which the said at least one area has a haze value (according to ASTM Standard Test Method D1003-61) lower than 30%, preferably lower than 15%.

Claim 28 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23, in which the external urinary catheter is made from a material comprising at least one permeable thermoplastic elastomer and at least one plasticizer.

Claim 29 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 28, in which a film of said material having a thickness of approximately 0.2 mm has a permeability of at least 500 g/m² pr. 24 hours, preferably at least 1000 g/m² pr. 24 hours, more preferably at least 1500 g/m² pr. 24 hours.

Claim 30 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 28, in which the thermoplastic elastomer is a polyamide-polyether block copolymer, a polyether ester, a thermoplastic urethane or any other suitable material.

Claim 31 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 29, in which the thermoplastic elastomer is a polyamide-polyether block copolymer, a polyether ester, a thermoplastic urethane or any other suitable material.

Claim 32 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23, in which the external urinary catheter is made from a material comprising at least one transparent and permeable thermoplastic elastomer and at least one plasticizer.

Claim 33 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 24, in which the plasticizer is a citrate plasticizer, a sulphone amide, a benzoate ester or any other suitable material.

Claim 34 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 24, in which said material comprises 10-60% citrate plasticizer and 40-90% polyamide-polyether block copolymer.

Claim 35 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 24, in which said material further comprises an addition of a polymer.

Claim 36 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 28, in which said material further comprises an addition of a polymer.

Claim 37 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 32, in which said material further comprises an addition of a polymer.

Claim 38 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 35, in which said polymer is a polyethylene elastomer, a polyethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, a graft polyolefin maleic anhydride, an amorphous ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymer, an ionomer or any other suitable material.

Claim 39 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 24, in which said material comprises 50-60% polyamide-polyether block copolymer, 10-20% amorphous ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymer and 20-40% citrate plasticizer.

Claim 40 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 24, in which the material further comprises a release and/or anti-blocking agent, such as eg. an amide or an amorphous silica.

Claim 41 (new): An external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23, in which the inner side of the sheath portion is provided with an integral layer of a pressure-sensitive adhesive and the outer side of the sheath portion with an adhesive-rejecting layer.

Claim 42 (new): A kit comprising an external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23 and a separate adhesive element.

Claim 43 (new): A kit comprising an external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23 and interlocking elements.

Claim 44 (new): A method of manufacturing an external urinary catheter comprising a tip portion and a sheath portion by subjecting a base material to one or more steps in a thermoplastic process, characterized in that said base material comprises at least one transparent and/or permeable thermoplastic elastomer and at least one plasticizer.

Claim 45 (new): A method as claimed in claim 44, in which said tip portion is produced by injection moulding and said sheath portion by extrusion, extrusion blow moulding, injection blow moulding or cold rolling.

Claim 46 (new): A method as claimed in claim 45, in which the tip portion is produced as a separate unit which is subsequently connected with the sheath portion.

Claim 47 (new): A method as claimed in claim 44, in which said external urinary catheter is produced entirely by extrusion blow moulding.